

Board –CBSE

Class –8th

Topic – Topic – Conservation of Plants and Animals

1. What are Wildlife sanctuaries and biosphere reserves?

Ans. Biosphere Reserves: Large areas of protected land for conservation of wildlife, plant and animal resources, and traditional life of the tribal living in the area.

Wildlife sanctuary: Areas where animals are protected from any disturbance to them and their habitat.

2. What is the purpose of setting Zoo and wildlife sanctuary?

Ans. The zoo keeps animals in captivity, within an artificially created habitat, whereas the sanctuary provides home to animals in their natural habitat without captivity.

3. What do you mean by Endangered and extinct species?

Ans. Animals whose numbers are diminishing to a level that they might face extinction are known as the endangered animal e.g. Tiger, whereas a species that has completely disappeared from the planet like the pink-headed duck and the cheetah is called extinct species.

4. What do Flora and fauna mean?

Ans. All the different kinds of plants on earth constitute its flora and all its different kinds of animals are collectively called its fauna.

5. How does deforestation reduce rainfall on land?

Ans. Since plants help in the evaporation of water, deforestation reduces rainfall on land.

6. How does deforestation lead to floods on the land?

Ans. Deforestation also leads to a decrease in the water holding capacity of the soil. The movement of water from the soil surface into the ground (infiltration rate) is reduced. So, there are floods.

7. What is the purpose of making national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves?

Ans. The purpose of making national parks, wildlife sanctuaries, and biosphere reserves is to conserve and protect the whole ecosystem from exploitation and to protect the ecosystem.

8. Why should we conserve biodiversity?

Ans. This is because Biodiversity maintains the environment around us. Plants and animals together maintain several natural cycles such as the oxygen, nitrogen, and carbon cycles. These gases in turn play a crucial role in maintaining life on earth.

9. Protected forests are also not completely safe for wild animals. Why?

Ans. It is a pity that even protected forests are not safe because people living in the neighborhood encroach upon them and destroy them.

10. Some tribes depend on the jungle. How?

Ans. Some tribals depend on the jungle as they live in the deep forest as primitive people had lived in ancient times. They are still away from the basic amenities of modern life. Forests provide their food items like seed grains, fruit, raw vegetables, and other products like honey, the meat of hunted wild animals for themselves, fodder for their animals, wood fuel for heating, and cooking even clothing using natural fibers, leaves, and animal skins.

11. What are the causes and consequences of deforestation?

Ans. The main causes of deforestation are the use of forest resources by human beings to meet the growing demand of the population, rapid urbanization, and industrialization. Some natural causes of deforestation are forest fires and severe droughts. The consequences of deforestation are:

- (a) Increase in carbon dioxide level in the air.
- (b) Increase in temperature and pollution level on earth.
- (c) Lowering in groundwater level.
- (d) More chances of natural calamities like floods and droughts.
- (e) Soil erosion leads to loss of humus and fertility of the topsoil.
- (f) Desertification of large areas and
- (g) Decrease in water holding capacity and nutrient content of the soil.

12. What is Red Data Book?

Ans. Red Data Book is the source book that keeps a record of all the endangered animals and plants.

13. What do you understand by the term migration?

Ans. Migration is the phenomenon of movement of a species from its own habitat to some other habitat for a particular time period every year for a specific purpose like breeding.

14. Why should the paper be saved? Prepare a list of ways by which you can save paper.

Ans. Paper is made from the pulp of wood. Production of paper on a large scale needs a regular supply of trees. This causes deforestation of large areas of land. So, we should save paper. Paper can be saved by:

- (a) Recycling of used paper.
- (b) Reusing paper- Notebooks of previous year having blank pages should be used as rough copies.

(c) Wastage of paper for fun should be avoided.

15. What will happen if the habitat of an animal is disturbed?

Ans. If the natural habitat of animals is disturbed or destroyed, the natural balance in the ecosystem will get disturbed and many animals will get extinct. The animals will not be able to live freely in their habitat.

16. Discuss the effects of deforestation on the next generation.

Ans. Deforestation increases pollution of air, global warming, reduces rainfall, decreases in groundwater level, and soil erosion. These problems will be faced by the next generations and will go on increasing. Less rainfall will lead to less food production in the farms. Prices of food items will increase very high. Next generations will also face a shortage of fresh water and unfavorable climate change due to deforestation.

17. Why was rainfall reduced in Cherrapunji which once had the highest rainfall?

Ans. Rainfall in Cherrapunji is greatly reduced by the loss of forest cover to create space for a growing population and cement industries.

18. How does over-grazing lead to desertification?

Ans. Overgrazing reduces the grass cover of land and exposes the soil to the atmospheric air. The Soil dries up and its humus layer is lost which slowly changed the grassland into a desert.

19. Give any two examples of the endemic flora of the Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve.

Ans. Sal and wild mango are the two examples of the endemic flora of the Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve.

20. Why do migratory birds migrate from one place to another?

Ans. Migratory birds migrate to overcome climatic changes. For example, Surkhab migrated from Malaysia.